

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

In the Matter of:

AQHI (Advanced Quality  
Hazmat Industries), Inc.  
9513 Business Center Drive  
Suite E, Rancho Cucamonga  
California 91730

EPA ID:CAR000013664

Respondent.

Docket HWCA20020012

CONSENT ORDER

Health and Safety Code  
Section 25187

The State Department of Toxic Substances Control  
(Department) and Advanced Quality Hazmat Industries (AQHI) Inc.  
(Respondent) enter into this Consent Order and agree as  
follows:

1. Respondent is a registered hazardous waste hauler  
with registration number 3546, located at 9513 Business Center  
Drive, Suite E Rancho Cucamonga, California 91730 (Site).

2. The Department inspected the Site on  
August 28, 2002.

3. The Department alleges the following violation:

3.1 The Respondent violated Health and Safety Code  
section 25201(a), and California Code of Regulations, title

22, section 66263.18, in that on or about August 28, 2002, Respondent held hazardous wastes at its transfer facility for more than ten days without an authorization from the Department.

4. A dispute exists regarding the alleged violation.

5. The parties wish to avoid the expense of litigation and to ensure prompt compliance.

6. Jurisdiction exists pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25187.

7. Respondent waives any right to a hearing in this matter.

8. This Consent Order shall constitute full settlement of the violation alleged above, but does not limit the Department from taking appropriate enforcement action concerning other violations.

9. Respondent does not admit the violation alleged above, except as follows: Respondent admits the facts alleged above for the purposes of any subsequent action brought pursuant to the Hazardous Waste Control Law, Health and Safety Code section 25100 et seq., within 5 years of the date this violation occurred.

SCHEDULE FOR COMPLIANCE

10. Respondent shall comply with the following:

10.1.1. Respondent certified through its submittal dated October 17, 2002, that the violation alleged above has been corrected.

10.1.2. Respondent hereby agrees to send two of the following employees to the California Compliance School Modules I through IV:

Ms. Victoria Barradas - Administrative Assistant

Mr. Robert Castillo - Operations Manager

Mr. Shawn Johnson - Assistant Operations manager

Attendance must be completed and Respondent must submit a Certification of Satisfactory Completion to the Department within 185 days of the date of this Consent Order. If Respondent fails to submit the Certification of Satisfactory Completion as required, the penalty of \$5,000.00 referenced in paragraph 11.1 of this Consent Order, is due and payable within 30 days after the expiration of the 185-day period. The 185-day period may be extended by the Department upon written request demonstrating good cause from Respondent.

10.2. Submittals: All submittals from Respondent pursuant to this Consent Order shall be sent to:

Nennet V. Alvarez, Branch Chief  
Statewide Compliance Division, Cypress office

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, California 90630

10.3. Communications: All approvals and decisions of the Department made regarding such submittals and notifications shall be communicated to Respondent in writing by a Branch Chief, Department of Toxic Substances Control, or his/her designee. No informal advice, guidance, suggestions, or comments by the Department regarding reports, plans, specifications, schedules, or any other writings by Respondent shall be construed to relieve Respondent of its obligation to obtain such formal approvals as may be required.

10.4. Department Review and Approval: If the Department determines that any report, plan, schedule, or other document submitted for approval pursuant to this Consent Order fails to comply with the Order or fails to protect public health or safety or the environment, the Department may return the document to Respondent with recommended changes and a date by which Respondent must submit to the Department a revised document incorporating the recommended changes.

10.5. Compliance with Applicable Laws: Respondent shall carry out this Order in compliance with all local, State, and federal requirements, including but not limited to requirements to obtain permits and to assure worker safety.

10.6. Endangerment during Implementation: In the event that the Department determines that any circumstances or activity (whether or not pursued in compliance with this Consent Order) are creating an imminent or substantial endangerment to the health or welfare of people on the site or in the surrounding area or to the environment, the Department may order Respondent to stop further implementation for such period of time as needed to abate the endangerment. Any deadline in this Consent Order directly affected by a Stop Work Order under this section shall be extended for the term of such Stop Work Order.

10.7. Liability: Nothing in this Consent Order shall constitute or be construed as a satisfaction or release from liability for any conditions or claims arising as a result of past, current, or future operations of Respondent, except as provided in this Consent Order. Notwithstanding compliance with the terms of this Consent Order, Respondent may be required to take further actions as are necessary to protect public health or welfare or the environment.

10.8. Site Access: Access to the Site shall be provided at all reasonable times to employees, contractors, and consultants of the Department, and any agency having jurisdiction. Nothing in this Consent Order is intended to limit in any way the right of entry or inspection that any

agency may otherwise have by operation of any law. The Department and its authorized representatives may enter and move freely about all property at the Site at all reasonable times for purposes including but not limited to: inspecting records, operating logs, and contracts relating to the Site; reviewing the progress of Respondent in carrying out the terms of this Consent Order; and conducting such tests as the Department may deem necessary. Respondent shall permit such persons to inspect and copy all records, documents, and other writings, including all sampling and monitoring data, in any way pertaining to work undertaken pursuant to this Consent Order.

10.9. Government Liabilities: The State of California shall not be liable for injuries or damages to persons or property resulting from acts or omissions by Respondent or related parties specified in paragraph 12.3, in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Order, nor shall the State of California be held as a party to any contract entered into by Respondent or its agents in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Order.

10.10. Incorporation of Plans and Reports: All plans, schedules, and reports that require Department approval and are submitted by Respondent pursuant to this Consent Order

are incorporated in this Consent Order upon approval by the Department.

10.11. Extension Requests: If Respondent is unable to perform any activity or submit any document within the time required under this Consent Order, the Respondent may, prior to expiration of the time, request an extension of time in writing. The extension request shall include a justification for the delay.

10.12. Extension Approvals: If the Department determines that good cause exists for an extension, it will grant the request and specify in writing a new compliance schedule.

#### PAYMENTS

11. Respondent shall pay the Department a total of \$8,120.00 as reimbursement of the Department's costs. The payment shall be made in two equal installments of \$4,060.00. The first payment is due within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Consent Order, and the last payment is due within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this Consent Order.

11.1. If Respondent fails to submit the Certification of Satisfactory Compliance as required and specified in paragraph 10.1.2 of this Consent Order, a penalty of \$5,000.00 is due and payable within 30 days after the expiration of the 185-day period allowed for completion of the course and submittal of the Certificate.

11.2. Respondent's checks shall be made payable to Department of Toxic Substances Control, and shall identify the Respondent and Docket Number as shown in the heading of this Consent Order. Respondent shall deliver the payment together with the attached payment voucher to:

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Accounting Office  
1001 I Street, 21st floor  
P. O. Box 806  
Sacramento, California 95812-0806

A photocopy of the check shall be sent to:

Nennet V. Alvarez, Branch Chief  
Statewide Compliance Division, Cypress Office  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, California 90630

11.3. If Respondent fails to make payment as provided above, Respondent agrees to pay interest at the rate established pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25360.1



and to pay all costs incurred by the Department in pursuing collection including attorney's fees.

#### OTHER PROVISIONS

12.1. Additional Enforcement Actions: By agreeing to this Consent Order, the Department does not waive the right to take further enforcement actions, except to the extent provided in this Consent Order.

12.2. Penalties for Noncompliance: Failure to comply with the terms of this Consent Order may subject Respondent to civil penalties and/or punitive damages for any costs incurred by the Department or other government agencies as a result of such failure, as provided by Health and Safety Code section 25188 and other applicable provisions of law.

12.3. Parties Bound: This Consent Order shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent and its officers, directors, agents, receivers, trustees, employees, contractors, consultants, successors, and assignees, including but not limited to individuals, partners, and subsidiary and parent corporations, and upon the Department and any successor agency that may have responsibility for and jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Consent Order.

12.4. Effective Date: The effective date of this Consent Order is the date it is signed by the Department.

12.5. Integration: This agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and may not be amended, supplemented, or modified, except as provided in this Consent Order.

Dated: 01/28/2003

Original Signed by: Mike Johnson

Signature of Respondent's Representative

Mike Johnson-President

Typed or Printed Name and Title  
of Respondent's Representative

Dated: 01/31/2003

Original Signed by: Nennet V. Alvarez

Nennet V. Alvarez, Branch Chief  
Statewide Compliance Division,  
Cypress Office  
Department of Toxic Substances Control